

SCHOOL FAIR.

A very successful fair was held today, at Ericksdale, of the Boys' and Girls' Club, representing the Ericksdale, Hartfield and Parkview schools. This being the first of its kind on a properly organized basis, very keen interest was shown by the boys and girls and also the parents.

Mr. Kitley, of the Agricultural College, acted as judge. The task that he had to perform, as he freely confessed, was no easy matter, owing to the excellent quality of all the exhibits. At the close of the judging the large number of people that had assembled adjourned to the schoolroom, where Mr. Kitley delivered an address, that, to say the

least, was helpful and instructive for future guidance in preparing the exhibits. Mr. Brunet, School Inspector, also delivered a splendid address on co-operation. The Rev. A. Matthews also gave a short address. A very high note was struck in all the addresses in praise and admiration for the indefatigable efforts of Miss Robinson in making the fair a huge success, with the help of Miss Hassam, of Hartfield, and Miss Mills, of Parkview. At the conclusion of the address the club was reorganized for the coming year as follows: Honorary president, the Rev. A. Matthews; president and organizer, Mr. Ben Laird; secretary and treasurer, Miss Robinson.

THE PENNY LUNCH.

In your and other school papers I see articles on the "School Lunch," but so far I've seen no reference to the "penny lunch." It was my privilege last year to visit schools in California, Toronto, Montreal, and several cities in New Jersey. In all of these places I found the idea of the penny lunch growing in favor and use. The mothers were most enthusiastic over it and certainly the lunchroom presented a very interesting aspect to visitors.

The idea, though carried out differently in different places, is, as the name suggests, a cheap lunch, where the penny (or copper) is the medium of exchange. Everything costs but one penny—an apple, a bun, a piece of cake, a doughnut, a piece of pie, a glass of milk, a cup of cocoa, a cup of bovril, or a cup of hot soup. Of course, only those things which are usually in the child's lunch pail are included, no candy, nuts, gum or such things being sold, though lettuce, radishes, celery, cress, etc., when in season, are to be had, and other fruits besides apples. In the Montreal school I visited the study hours were different to ours. School begins at 8.30 a.m., recess at 10 a.m. and lunch from 11.30 to 12 o'clock; then dismissal for the day at

2 p.m. This plan gives the child the warm sunshine in which to play and gets the child into the habit of "early to bed and early to rise" (you can all complete the saying).

The penny lunch was served in the basement at a long counter so that several hundred children received attention in a short time. I was informed that the larger proportion of the children took a glass of milk and a bun (i.e., 2 cents' worth) each day.

In Plainfield, N.J., in each school one of the class-rooms was used to serve in, and a long table resting on trestles served as a counter. The food was supplied by a caterer each morning, whose bills were paid by the school board—ladies of the town taking turns at serving the children—a dish washer being thus the only paid help (at 25 cents per hour). The child ate standing at the counter or took his cup and saucer (all the dishes allowed) to a nearby seat.

In Orange, N.J., the same plan was followed. In other places I found the school teacher had a cupboard supplied by the trustees, with oxo cubes, malted milk, biscuits and fruit, from which, for the penny, the child received articles to supplement his lunch, so that he